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The Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, Armenian SSR, has made some practical achievements in developing insulation materials from pumice, but has not explored all the possibilities. Specialists are still faced with unsolved problems, the settling of which will be a great contribution to further progress in the refrigeration industry. -- R. Balagyan, chief of the Department of Capital Construction of the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, Armenian SSR

DEVICES PROVIDE AUTOMATIC CONTROL FOR REFRIGERATING UNITS -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 87, 12 Apr 50

Experimental models of instruments for automatically controlling ammonia refrigerating units were designed and produced at the automata laboratory of the Leningrad branch of the Scientific-Research Institute for Chemical-Machine Building under the direction of A. D. Kuyuchkov, engineer and chief of the laboratory.

The instruments were tested, with good results, in the refrigerating unit of Store No 34 of the Kuybyshev Rayon Food Trade, 53 Nevskiy.

Constant temperature is maintained in the compartments of the unit. At the slightest increase, the instruments automatically turn on the unit; when the temperature drops to the necessary level, they turn it off.

A unit equipped with these devices insures great savings in electricity and water; it requires only occasional inspection. The automatic control also prevents the unit from breaking down. If pressure rises too high or if the cooling brine freezes, the instruments immediately cut off the unit, and a signal bell rings in the office of the director.

MINISTRY FAILS TO SUPPLY PRECISION EQUIPMENT -- Izvestiya, No 84, 8 Apr 50

The butter- and cheese-making, milk-canning, and refrigeration plants are in urgent need of a special fixture, the lack of which forced several plants to cease operating last year.

The Main Administration for the Production of Industrial Fittings of the Ministry of Machine and Instrument Building USSR, which should supply this type of equipment to new installations, appears undisturbed by its obligation.

Lengthy correspondence has passed between the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry and the Ministry of Machine and Instrument Building, but the production of such equipment as moisture traps, miscellaneous cocks and valves, liquid level indicators, and water meters has not been arranged. Because of the small diameter of the required fixture (a few dozen millimeters), it can be produced only in instrument-building plants.

The instrument-building plants are putting out steam and water valves of all sizes in large quantities. However, similar equipment is being successfully produced by numerous cooperative trade artels in the RSFSR and Ukraine. Who, then, will produce the special fixture which requires extra precision of workmanship? The instrument-building plants must be compelled to do this. -- G. Shakhbazov, engineer of Glavkomplektooborudovaniya (Main Administration of Unit Assembly Equipment) of the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry USSR

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WORKERS CALL FOR SHOP IMPROVEMENTS -- Zarya Vostoka, No 72, 7 Apr 50

"The Batumi Machine-Building Plant imeni L. Beriia has produced, above the first-quarter plan, one 'gidrotemper,' a machine for humidifying rooms in tea plants, four tea cutters, two tea-sorting machines, and one unit of equipment for the perfume industry." With this announcement G. Tabakua, secretary of the party organization, opened a meeting of 31 March, attended by 16 men representing the different shops.

During the meeting, the workers suggested a number of improvements. Among other things, a pneumatic instrument is required for trimming castings; this work is now done by hand. Round files and drills of certain sizes are needed. Although these are produced in abundant quantity, they are not available. One tool must be substituted for another, with the result that productivity is reduced sharply. The Sales Department of Glavpishchemash (Main Administration of Food-Processing Machinery) of the Ministry of the Food Industry USSR is completely indifferent to this fact. Pipes should be bent by machine, not by hand. The same shears should not be used to cut thick and thin sheets of metal. Transport within the plant should be mechanized.

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